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63-year-old wrong to be righted

DESMOND The Nova Scotia government will apologize and grant a pardon to the late Viola Desmond, a black woman who was jailed and fined 63 years ago for sitting in the whites-only section of a segregated movie theatre in New Glasgow.

Premier Darrell Dexter will be joined by the lieutenant-governor and his justice minister to grant the formal apology and pardon during a ceremony tomorrow.

Dexter said yesterday the pardon is based on Desmond's innocence and recognizes that a conviction was made in error.

"It's an exercise of the royal prerogative of mercy and it looks to set aside an error that has taken place and to right a wrong," he said outside the legislature.

Dexter said it's proper to recognize Desmond was a person who suffered during a time of racial intolerance. Dexter also said the province is considering the designation of a special day to commemorate Desmond, who died in 1965.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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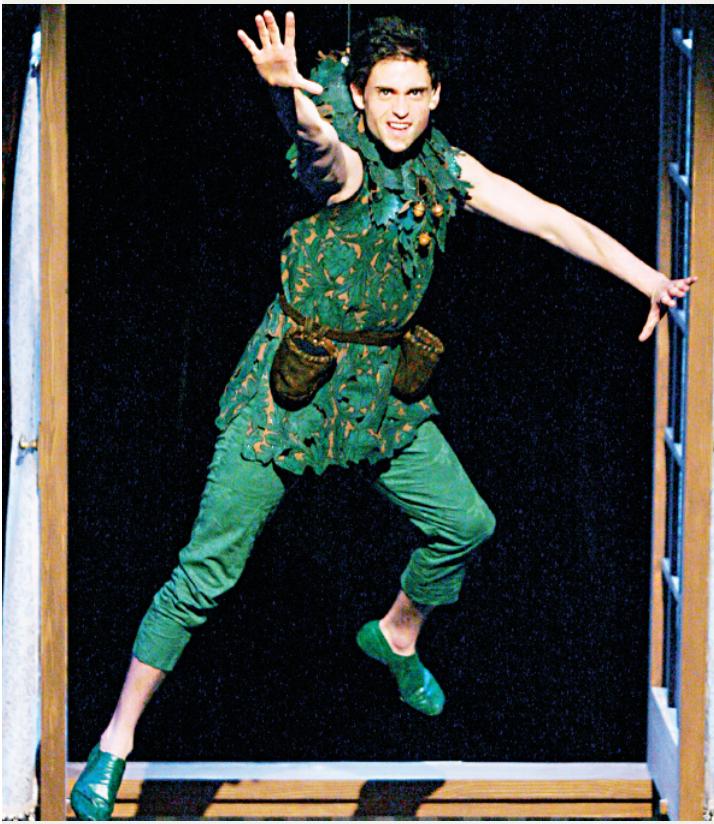
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Neptune Theatre **Off to Never Never Land**



Actor Stephen Roberts sails through the air as Peter Pan yesterday during a media call at Neptune Theatre. The musical premieres Friday and runs through May 30 at Fountain Hall. Story, page 4.

Decision deferred on parking fee hike

REVENUE Regional council will wait another week to decide whether motorists will pay more to park in downtown Halifax and Dartmouth.

Downtown Halifax Coun. Dawn Sloane told council last night the business community hasn't had enough time to evaluate the effect a proposed increase in parking meter rates will have on their businesses.

Sloane requested the issue be deferred until council meets again April 20.

"I've had several inquiries from (businesses), and they're a little worried that they weren't given enough notice," Sloane told council. "They had two days to actually absorb what this was going to do to their businesses."

Council approved the deferral in a narrow vote.

A staff report recommends raising the parking meter rate by 50 cents per hour as of May 31. If approved, parking for an hour in downtown Halifax

would cost \$2, and \$1.50 in downtown Dartmouth.

Council also voted to close several Visitor Information Centres in the urban core and Sackville yesterday. The closure is expected to save the municipality \$266,000 annually.

HRM will also be expanding burial services in municipal cemeteries, which is expected to turn a \$400,000 annual cost into a \$55,000 to \$100,000 source of revenue.

ALEX BOUTILIER/
FOR METRO HALIFAX

Council slapped on wrist

Bureaucrat warns against more public criticism of municipal staff

ALEX BOUTILIER
for Metro Halifax

HRM's top bureaucrat told regional council in no uncertain terms yesterday to stop publicly criticizing municipal staff.

In a tense pre-budget meeting yesterday morning, chief administrative officer Dan English told councillors some of their comments to the media has hurt employee morale and may foster dissent in the ranks.

"Some of what has happened in recent weeks has been unfair, unnecessary and inappropriate," English said inside council chambers. "I deserve better. My team deserves better. This organization deserves better. And I expect better."

English said he wants council to treat staff with more respect while they discuss budget issues.

"Just in terms of respect at the council table relative to talking about program and service levels, as opposed to just talking about arbitrary amounts of staff layoffs," he told Metro afterwards.

The municipality is currently facing a \$32-million deficit for the 2010-11 fiscal year. One of the avenues HRM is considering to close

the gap is service reductions, which may have implications for staffing.

English noted there is a process to address any concerns about HRM employees or employment practices — through his office.

"To publicly criticize employees outside of this process has significant consequences," he said. "I will not quietly stand by as HRM's administration and the role of the CAO is undermined."

Mayor Peter Kelly called for a snap in-camera discussion following the two staff reports English introduced.

He said later all discussions of personnel issues are required to be conducted behind closed doors.

Kelly admitted the municipality's projected deficit requires all avenues to be explored — including staff cuts.

"(Staff cuts) will be the last area we want to go, but ultimately every stone will be turned," he said. "In these challenging economic times, work force adjustments are ... often around. However, as indicated, this is a last resort of council."

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Local



Liberals headed to Baddeck

Cape Breton will be the centre of the Liberal party universe when the federal caucus gathers in Baddeck over three days for its annual summer caucus. Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, MPs, senators and party officials will be setting the stage for what is expected to be a lively fall session of Parliament and likely laying out aspects of the party's national platform at the summer caucus at Baddeck's Inverary Inn from Aug. 30 to Sept. 1.

METRO HALIFAX



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Man handed DUI charges after car crashes into fence

COLE HARBOUR A 21-year-old man is facing impaired driving charges after police say the car he was driving crashed into a residence's fence and a neighbour's shed on Cathy Lane in Cole Harbour early yesterday morning.

Police say residents were woken around 3 a.m. because of the loud crash.

According to police, residents witnessed a man leaving a vehicle that had been encased in their fence and their neighbour's shed. Police found and arrested a man a short time later on Flagstone Drive.

The 21-year-old is charged with impaired driving, impaired operation of a vehicle over 80 mg and leaving the scene of a crash. He will appear in provincial court next month.

SHELBY MCDONALD/
FOR METRO HALIFAX

Sir Paul could've cost us millions

Province was on hook to cover McCartney's \$3.5 million concert fee

Nova Scotians learned yesterday they would have been on the hook for \$3.5 million in fees to Paul McCartney if his concert on the Halifax Common last summer was a bust.

Premier Darrell Dexter confirmed reports on The Coast website that the province made a guarantee to pay McCartney's multimillion-dollar appearance.

Had the concert not sold enough tickets, Nova Scotia would have had to pay the bill on top of \$600,000 it had already spent on the event. That didn't happen and the money was paid to McCartney from ticket profits.

Yesterday Premier Darrell Dexter said the contract was signed by the previous government. He said promoter Harold MacKay's Power Promotional Concepts asked the NDP for even more money in the summer. The government declined.

"We thought \$600,000 as an investment was a lot of money for the province in any event, and the fact that the province was potentially on the hook for



Paul McCartney performs on the Halifax Common in this file photo taken from the Atlantica Hotel last July. The province spent \$600,000 on advertising and logistical support for the concert.

the \$3.5-million guarantee, it seemed that we had far and away done the lion's share for that particular promotion," said Dexter.

The municipality also kicked in \$195,000. Of the provincial money, \$300,000 was supposed to

be repaid if ticket sales were high enough.

That threshold was never reached and sales data has not been made public.

Dexter wouldn't close the door on using public money to back private concerts in the future. He said

future proposals would have to undergo a cost-benefit analysis.

"These are private ventures but they also have great spinoff for the broader community," he said.

"You don't necessarily rule them out, but I think

you would approach them very, very cautiously."

There is an event fund that developers can apply to.

No applications were made for any of the concerts on the Common this summer.

News in brief

CHILD PORN A new law that took effect yesterday requires all Nova Scotians to report suspected child pornography. The provincial government says the intent is to help reduce the sexual exploitation of children. Anyone who comes across child porn must now contact the police.

Officials say the law, first unveiled about two years ago, will protect people from retaliation they could suffer for reporting the material.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Complaints against street hockey games 'frivolous': Estabrooks



"Ball hockey is a part of the right of growing up and the right of being on your own street."

Transportation Minister Bill Estabrooks

the community, when they see you coming after they invite you to play for a moment or two, they get out of the way," he said.

"It's a tradition in this country and it should be allowed to continue."

The woman, Debbie Jef-

feries, said the officer indicated police had received complaints about the boys playing.

Estabrooks said police are busy enough as it is and have more important things to do than stopping children from playing

hockey on the streets.

"We get a lot of complaints as politicians and I'm sure the police do too," Estabrooks told reporters at the legislature. "Ball hockey is a part of the right of growing up and the right of being on your own street."

While it's a common sight on suburban Canadian streets, the noise and public safety issues related to road hockey has created controversy in municipali-

ties across the country.

Last month, a Montreal-area man vowed to fight a \$75 fine after a neighbour complained a group of adults and kids were playing street hockey loudly.

In 2006, a proposed by-law that some feared could threaten street hockey in Halifax prompted Cole Harbour hockey star Sidney Crosby to send an email to Mayor Peter Kelly in support of the game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anti-McNeil site springs up as Liberal leader's post nears review

PAUL MCLEOD
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for Liberal members to vote against McNeil at his May leadership review.

The website posts various negative news clippings about the leader, shows some statistics on how party support hasn't grown since he took over, and asks questions like "Do you think McNeil can win the next election?"

McNeil took the site in

stride yesterday and said he is looking forward to the review.

"I knew not everyone was going to be supporting me. That's one of the challenges

when you're the leader of any organization," he said.

McNeil pointed out the site was anonymous and could have just been one person. "It's no different than people posting comments on articles with not putting their own name to them. I give very little credence to them," he said.

"If they really have a challenge with my leader-

ship, a problem with it, I expect them to come forward."

Party members from across the province can send in ballots saying they do or do not support McNeil. They will be tallied at the Liberal AGM on the weekend of May 14. McNeil has not said what approval rating he considers satisfactory.

Charges laid after contraband smokes seized

A 63-year-old man is facing charges after police searched a residence on Union Street in Pictou and say they found about 5,400 contraband cigarettes and cigars. The Pictou man is facing charges under the Excise Act and Provincial Revenue Act. He'll appear in court in June. **METRO HALIFAX**

250 spaces added to NSCC

\$2M investment going to high-demand programs

PHILIP CROUCHER
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Joan McArthur-Blair refers to it as a beginning step.

The president of the Nova Scotia Community College was on hand at the school's Institute of Technology campus in north-end Halifax yesterday as Premier Darrell Dexter announced his government was adding 250 spaces for students at NSCC campuses across the province at a cost of \$2 million.

"We have about 2,500 Nova Scotians currently on our wait list — and so this is incremental," McArthur-Blair said after the noontime announcement. "It's a beginning to look at the ways in which we dissolve that wait list and how we understand about getting more and more Nova Scotians into the college."

No definitive decision has been made on where the new spaces for students will go, but McArthur-Blair said it would be for "high-demand areas" of employment.

She said those fields include the health sector, human-service areas, and trades and technology.

To help bring this point home, yesterday's announcement attended by



Electronic engineering student Keegan Gingell uses an oscilloscope as he works on an FM radio at the NSCC Institute of Technology campus yesterday. The province announced \$2 million in funding yesterday to increase the capacity of high-demand programs at NSCC.

Dexter and Education Minister Marilyn More took place inside an IT classroom for the electronic engineer technicians program.

"It's really targeted programming at those high-demand areas where this is both the student demand and the employer demand,"

Dexter said. Education Minister Marilyn More took place inside an IT classroom for the electronic engineer technicians program.

"It's really targeted programming at those high-demand areas where this is both the student demand and the employer demand,"

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"It's really targeted programming at those high-demand areas where this is both the student demand and the employer demand,"

Dexter said. Education Minister Marilyn More took place inside an IT classroom for the electronic engineer technicians program.

Conservatives proposing fixed election dates

PAUL MCLEOD
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who had proposed a bill last year that would do the exact same thing, only with the date two weeks later. **Karen Casey**

Opposition parties argue that fixing the date would bring stability to the system, help governments in their long-term planning and

give voters the convenience of a reliable election date.

But any electoral reform would have to be accepted by the NDP and Premier Darrell Dexter said yesterday he prefers the traditional parliamentary system.

"My view of this is that fixed election dates have been less successful than people thought that they might be," he said.

"In fact, what they have done is essentially led us down the road to a kind of U.S.-style electioneering where you actually have elections that go on for months and almost years with everyone fixed on a particular date."

Tory interim leader Karen Casey said she didn't buy that argument, saying pre-election campaigns already stretch out for months in Canada.

Coyote bounty looks more certain as decision looms

WILDLIFE A bounty on coyote pelts in Nova Scotia is looking more likely, with a final decision coming by Friday.

Natural Resources Minister John MacDonell indicated yesterday he's leaning towards a bounty and said he just wants to speak to an animal-behaviour specialist before making the final call.

"I've heard nothing that makes me think I could be going down the wrong road on this," he told reporters at Province House.

Coyotes can already be shot all year round but there hasn't been a bounty

since the mid-1980s. A previous bounty from 1982 to '86 was discontinued because it was seen as ineffective.

MacDonell said the price for a pelt wouldn't be above the \$20 mark set by Saskatchewan's recent bounty. But exactly how the system would work isn't yet clear.

"We haven't fleshed that out," MacDonell said.

"I think the place where we're at is we're more interested in having this done through the trapper's association."

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX

MLAs to see reduction in pension benefits: Minister

CHANGES Provincial politicians will see a decrease in their pension benefits to put them in line with all other civil servants.

On budget day, Finance Minister Graham Steele revealed he was cutting some benefits to restore the badly underfunded public-service pension plan to health.

Yesterday, he revealed MLAs will have all of those changes apply to them as well, minus a minimum retirement limit.

"It seemed to us that it is simply fair that whatever changes are being made to the public-service plan should also apply to

"It is simply fair that whatever changes are being made to the public-service plan should also apply to MLAs."

Finance Minister Graham Steele

MLAs," he said.

There actually is no separate MLA fund, but if indexing gets cut down for civil-servant pensions because of future problems with funding, those cuts will also apply to MLAs.

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX

New ferry possible in '11: Official

YARMOUTH The manager of the Port of Yarmouth says the prospects are good for a ferry service next year to New England.

Dave Whiting says there are five interested parties, including Bay Ferries, looking at an alternative service to the Cat ferry.

The operators of the Cat ferry to Maine announced in December that they were shutting down the service after the provincial government refused to provide any more subsidies.

Whiting says everyone involved is waiting to hear from Transport Canada on the terms on the ferry terminal. Local officials are looking to take ownership of the terminal and Whiting says they first need to know when Transport Canada will begin the process of divestiture.

Whiting says once the details are clear, then comes the issue of funding for a ferry service after proposals are in hand.

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Quite possibly the oldest Colchester County resident has died. Sadie Agnes MacPherson was 106 when she passed away on Friday. Born in North Sydney, she called Truro home for more than 25 years. MacPherson's obituary said she "enjoyed her birthday parties, beautiful dresses and her hair always perfectly done." **TRURO DAILY NEWS**

Call-centre layoffs nixed as company signs agreement

LABOUR It appears that looming layoffs at a Cape Breton call centre have been averted.

The company, Aditya Birla Minacs, has signed a contract with one of Canada's largest banks, allowing it to continue employing 200 workers.

Letters were sent to employees just last week saying that operations would wind down April 30 for

lack of clients.

Billy Joe MacLean, the mayor of Port Hawkesbury, says it's great news because the company is a huge part of the community.

MacLean says he and the area's legislature member plan to meet with provincial officials soon to help secure a long-term agreement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

INVESTIGATION Police are looking for two young males after two youths were robbed on Monday night in Fairview. Halifax Regional Police say the incident took place at 6:45 p.m. on Gesner Street near Main Avenue. Police say two male youths were walking in the area when two other males approached them and demanded they give up what they had on them. Police say one victim had two cellphones taken, while the other male youth was robbed of his cellphone and wallet. No weapons were at the scene, police say, and neither victim was hurt. Police describe the suspects as being in their late teens.

INFRACTIONS Police slapped 34 people with tickets for using a cellphone while driving last

month as part of a specific focus by HRM traffic officers to make sure motorists were obeying the law. As well last month, the Halifax Regional Police/RMP Integrated Traffic Unit issued 77 tickets for not using daytime running lights. This month, the unit is focusing on vehicle safety compliance, as daytime checkpoints will be conducted.

CLOSURE The Marion Bridge highway was closed yesterday morning after Cape Breton Regional Police reported a single-vehicle accident on Highway 327 at the intersection of Caribou Marsh Road. Police say a vehicle struck a power pole at around 8:30 a.m., causing power lines to fall across the road.

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Peter Pan play set to soar

SHELBY MCDONALD
for Metro Halifax



Peter Pan will fly again.

The beloved fairy tale is coming to life thanks to director George Pothitos and the Neptune Theatre. Peter Pan, the play, takes to the stage from Friday through May 30 and will end a Neptune season Pothitos has referred to as one based on hope.

Pothitos, in his second year as artistic director at Neptune, said he's been planning to put this large production on the Neptune stage for over a year and a half.

"It was extremely hard but very joyous because there are a lot of elements to put together because it's a musical," Pothitos said about getting this sure-fire box-office hit off the ground. "It was daunting but we started early with the visions and designs."

When it comes to the play Peter Pan, Pothitos has a message for people going to the show. He wants the audience to forget about any daily worries and get lost in the fantasy musical journey the production provides.

"We all need to tap into our childhood memories, just to connect us with our past and the joyous memories," he said.

"Not to take us back and forget where we are, but just to remind us of our childhood and how we were and how we are now."

Stephen Roberts grew up watching Disney's Peter Pan but never thought he'd be starring as the titled character of the play at 25.

"It's amazing ... The actu-



Actors, from left, Jonathan Logan, Heidi Ford, Blair Irwin and Nathaniel Dooks surround the family dog Nana during the media call for Peter Pan at the Neptune Theatre yesterday. The musical premieres Friday and runs through May 30.

Starts Friday

- Peter Pan premieres Friday and runs through May 30 at Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall. For tickets, visit neptunetheatre.com.

has also been gymnastically trained, which helps

make Peter Pan truly come to life as Roberts does many acrobatic moves on stage.

"It keeps you in touch with your imagination," he said. "It will touch on people's childhood — what they have lost or what they have kept or how they can keep it alive."

Fight's on to relocate tire recycling plant

LAW A northern Nova Scotia municipality is launching a legal fight to have a tire recycling plant located in its area.

The Municipality of the District of Guysborough filed a notice of action yesterday asking the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia to

overturn a decision awarding a tire recycling contract to a Halifax company.

The case against the province's Resource Recovery Fund Board, a non-profit body, states that it made "serious errors" in awarding the contract to Halifax C&D Recycling Ltd.

The municipality is also seeking damages and costs, and wants to find out why it didn't win.

Guy'sborough proposed to put the recycling plant at its existing waste management facility near Lincolnville.

The warden says the mu-

nicipality had the best business plan with the lowest bid and would have provided needed jobs in the area.

A spokesman with the board said he couldn't comment on the matter since it is before the courts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Forces chopper makes emergency landing

MILITARY A Canadian Forces Cormorant helicopter with six people on board was forced to make an emergency landing in Nova Scotia early yesterday.

Mike Bonin, a spokesman for the Search and Rescue Centre, said the chopper set down in a ball field near Christmas Island shortly after mid-

"In order to ensure the safety of the crew, their procedures say for them to land."

Mike Bonin, Search and Rescue Centre spokesman

night.

"The indicator lights told them it was a clogged fuel filter," said Bonin.

"In order to ensure the safety of the crew, their procedures say for them to land."

There were no injuries and the helicopter landing area was secured.

Bonin said a mobile repair team was on its way to get the crew airborne again.

The chopper, out of CFB Greenwood in the Annapolis Valley, was on a routine training flight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man's stem cells used to repair his failing heart

In what's said to be a Canadian "first," Montreal researchers have used a patient's own stem cells to help repair his heart during open-heart bypass surgery. Doctors removed bone marrow from the man's hip, purified it to isolate the stem cells, then injected them directly into his failing heart. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada

D

That's 'D' as in delays, Ottawa

The prime minister's bureaucrats get a below-average "D" grade for the way they handle information requests from the public. Federal information commissioner Suzanne Legault gave the Privy Council Office the "D" for delays that stymie information requesters. Access to Information requests are supposed to be answered within 30 days, but many agencies average several months.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Is this a room with a clue?

It may be key in Guergis case

Is a room across from the offices of disgraced Helena Guergis at the centre of allegations against her?

Rahim Jaffer's business partner says it may well be.



Gleaud said the room was not somewhere that Jaffer would have done business, and it predated his work at their company, Green Power Generation.

Guergis, who held a secretary of state's position before she was ejected from government, confirmed in an email that Jaffer had used one of her offices.

"He had 12 years of paper and wanted to shred it all. He used a space to do this and only this," Guergis said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Apollo heroes **Houston, we have no problem**



A Canadian team that helped ensure Apollo 13 got back to Earth safely 40 years ago is honoured by the Canadian Air and Space Museum yesterday. Ben Etkin, left, Barry French, centre, and Phil Sullivan hold their awards in Toronto. The trio was part of a team that had four hours to make critical calculations that led to the ailing spacecraft landing safely. "We had to guesstimate things," said French. One of the awards was the slide rule used in the calculations.

Provinces' differences not so healthy

PROVINCES A new study shows big differences in health-care spending across the country.

Some provinces spend hundreds of dollars more per capita than others.

Toronto-based Dale Orr Economic Insight says the highest per capita spenders are Newfoundland and Labrador at \$4,490, and Saskatchewan and Alberta at just over \$4,400 each.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Comment & Views

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Comment

The ready for prime-time players

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan



metronews.ca/thewestview

Is it time to move on yet? The pundits have shifted through the mountain of ashes, all that remains of the parliamentary careers of Helena Guergis and her partner in hubris, Rahim Jaffer.

It's a grim spectacle, not suitable for children and voters with weak stomachs. Definitely time to

move on.

To the sequel: The Helena and Rahim Reality Show. If this were America, they would have already signed with Fox or A&E.

All the elements for terrific TV are in place. If I were spinning the concept, I'd move the charming couple to Charlottetown, P.E.I., where they open a laundry and try to explain to Rick Mercer how they managed to scorch all his shirt collars. After Helena seriously pissed off the good people of the island by calling it a hellhole, they need an armed escort to get to and from work. Fortunately, they are able to hire Helena's ex-parliamentary

"Although there have been a number of well-meaning attempts to characterize the Jaffer/Guergis fall from grace as a tragedy, it's more Dog the Bounty Hunter than Antony and Cleopatra."

chauffer, who says he already has lots of experience driving Rahim around when Helena is stuck at work.

The main plot driver, though, is the weekly attempt by Rahim to get anyone from the government to answer his calls from a pay phone near the laundry. (No more taxpayer-funded BlackBerry). Of course, no one ever an-

swers, which puts his lobbying business in jeopardy.

It's better than Corner Gas because it's "real." Just like Gene Simmons. Or Sarah Palin. Each week, Helena could take viewers to a P.E.I. tourist attraction: Cavendish Beach, the Anne of Green Gables Museum, Cavendish Beach, the Anne of Green Gables Museum ... she would look kinda fetching in those red

pigtailed.

Although there have been a number of well-meaning attempts to characterize the Jaffer/Guergis fall from grace as a tragedy, it's more Dog the Bounty Hunter than Antony and Cleopatra. Unlike other great Canadian power failures like Belinda Stronach and Peter Mackay, or even Pierre and Margaret, Helena and Rahim didn't have very far to fall.

Rahim, notorious for allowing his assistant to impersonate him on a talk show, was already halfway down. And Helena, despite the promise shown by her triumphant victory in the 1992 Miss Huronia beauty

pageant, has no subsequent track record to speak of — which didn't prevent the prime minister from trying to exploit her photogenic attributes by positioning her as his back-drop during question period.

But in the 21st century, notoriety is just another word for celebrity, and celebrities, no matter how Lilliputian, have the real power. Just ask Harper, who's having a tough time getting Helena Guergis off the screen now that she's in the spotlight.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Who do you think will win the Stanley Cup?

Ishan Junus
Dartmouth

A: Pittsburgh for sure. They're a pretty strong team.

Kristen Berglund
Dartmouth

A: I don't even know who's in it. I don't even watch. Team Canada won in the Olympics — I know that.

Brian Mestre
Musquodoboit Harbour

A: Vancouver Canucks because Henrik Sedin's on a roll right now. They've got Burrows scoring goals, Samuelsson scoring goals. It's just a bit shaky on Luongo. He won the gold medal and everything and I don't know if his mind's in the game right now.

Aya Mansour
Ottawa

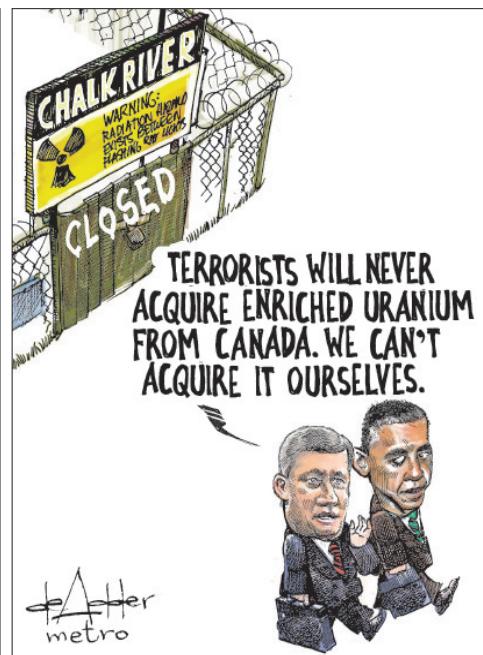
A: Ottawa Senators. I think they're a good team. I give 'em a shot.

Patrick Huynh
Edmonton

A: San Jose because they are due for a long playoff run. Marleau, Thornton and Heatley all won a gold medal, so it's their time to shine.

Amy Walker
Victoria

A: The Canucks, because (Roberto) Luongo's going to get his act together. He's going to get off his Olympic hangover, and because of Henrik Sedin.



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Man gets jail, caning for assaulting wife after she refused sex
 A court sentenced a Malaysian man to six years in prison and ordered him to be caned after he splashed acid on his wife for refusing to have sex with him. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World

Global effort urged for nuclear security

The 47 nations at U.S. President Barack Obama's Nuclear Security Summit agreed yesterday that all countries are responsible for safeguarding nuclear weapons and materials and keeping them out of terrorists' hands, citing a new reality in which terror concerns outweigh worries about attacks by nuclear powers.

A communique also directs the global community to work in concert against the sale or theft of nuclear materials, with nations co-operating more deeply with the United Nations and its watchdog arm, the

International Atomic Energy Agency. The final document closes the two-day gathering that was called by Obama to focus world attention on the dangers of terrorists obtaining nuclear materials.

Addressing the conference, Obama framed the problem as a "cruel irony of history" — nuclear dangers on the rise, even after the end of the Cold War and decades of fear stoked by a U.S.-Soviet arms race. A terrorist group in possession of plutonium no bigger than an apple could detonate a device capable of inflicting hundreds of

thousands of casualties, he said.

"Terrorist networks such as al-Qaida have tried to acquire the material for a nuclear weapon, and if they ever succeeded, they would surely use it," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



India Holy water



RAJESH KUMAR SINGH/THOMSON ASSOCIATED PRESS

Devotees bathe in the River Ganges, holy to Hindus, during the Kumbh Mela in Haridwar, India, yesterday. Hindus bathe in the river with the belief that it will cleanse them of their sins and free them from the cycle of life and rebirth.

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN A gunman lying in wait shot and killed an 18-year-old woman as she left her job at a U.S.-based development company in Kandahar yesterday, casting a spotlight on a stepped-up campaign of Taliban intimidation against women. Although there was no claim of responsibility and police said the motive for the attack was unclear, Taliban militants have been particularly harsh with women who work for foreign organizations or attend school.

CHINA A series of strong earthquakes struck China's western Qinghai province late yesterday, the U.S. Geological Survey said. There were no immediate reports of casualties, though witnesses described houses quickly crumbling. The USGS reported that a magnitude 6.9 tremor struck, and was followed by two quakes in the same region.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Can tragedy bring adversaries closer?

POLAND The plane crash in Russia that killed the Polish president and a long list of notable Poles has brought a sudden rush of warm feelings between two nations whose relations have been fraught with historical hatreds.

In Russia, the normally stoic Vladimir Putin has set the tone with an outpouring of emotion, while Poland has been deeply moved by the gestures of sympathy from a country

Thousands mourn

- Thousands of grieving mourners tossed flowers at a slow-moving hearse or joined an enormous viewing line in Warsaw yesterday to pay their respects to Polish President Lech Kaczynski and his wife.

that had long tried to subjugate it. In a significant step, a Russian state television network on Sunday night

aired Katyn, a celebrated Polish film about a Second World War-era Soviet massacre that looms large in Polish memory. For decades the Soviet Union denied responsibility, and even today many Russians know little about the killings.

Closer political ties still seem far off, but Poland's foreign minister, long suspicious of Russia's intentions, made clear the tragic plane crash also offers an opportunity.

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Bangladesh	3.9 c/min	Lebanon	9.9 c/min	Iraq	4.9 c/min
Barbados	9.9 c/min	Libya	24.9 c/min	Israel	2.9 c/min
Chile	2.9 c/min	Nepal	7.9 c/min	Italy	2.9 c/min
China	2.9 c/min	Oman	14.9 c/min	Russia	2.9 c/min
Ecuador	12.9 c/min	Fiji	24.9 c/min	Saudi Arabia	3.9 c/min
El Salvador	9.9 c/min	Ghana	9.9 c/min	South Korea	2.9 c/min
Jamaica	8.9 c/min	Greece	2.9 c/min	Sri Lanka	11.9 c/min
Jordan	3.9 c/min	Guatemala	10.9 c/min	Trinidad	4.9 c/min
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Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Twitter to add ads

ONLINE Twitter announced yesterday that it is introducing advertising, allowing companies to pay to have their messages show up first in searches on its site.

Twitter has grown quickly in popularity since it started in 2006, with celebrities such as Oprah Winfrey and Ashton Kutcher "tweeting" messages of 140 characters or less alongside everyday users.

Twitter has been making an undisclosed amount of money by providing Google Inc. and Microsoft Corp. with access to messages for their search engines.

Many people expected Twitter would eventually introduce advertising.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adult Lusty Lady's last dance



Retired dancer and current employee Virginia (Candy Girl) Leroy laughs as she shows off the iconic marquee of the Lusty Lady in Seattle Monday. The nude peep show near the Pike Place Market known for the naughty puns on its marquee, is closing. The adult business also is known for being female-owned and sharing profits with the dancers.

China rejects currency changes
Chinese President Hu Jintao rebuffed U.S. calls to re-value China's currency, telling President Barack Obama that any tinkering with the yuan will be done by Beijing in accord with domestic interests, Chinese officials said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Foreign ownership a threat, says CRTC

Canada's federal regulator has come out strongly against foreign control of the country's telecom sector.

CRTC chairman Konrad von Finckenstein told a House of Commons committee yesterday that foreigners should be restricted to a maximum 49 per cent of controlling shares in any telecommunications firm.

"If you don't do this ... we will have a branch plant communications industry," he said.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission head was testifying on a proposal in last month's throne speech that would see the government "open Canada's doors further to venture capital and to foreign investment"

in "satellite and telecommunications industries."

But von Finckenstein said it was not possible to allow foreign ownership rules to relax on the telecoms without opening up Canada's broadcasters — the culturally sensitive content part of the sector — as well.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

HOUSING The New Housing Price Index rose 0.1 per cent in February following a 0.4 per cent increase in January. Statistics Canada reports prices rose in 14 of 21 metropolitan

areas between January and February. Prices increased the most in Regina (up two per cent), followed by Winnipeg and London (both up 1.9%).

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Slammers beat Crushers to win Kent Cup

The Woodstock Slammers captured the Maritime Junior A Hockey League's Kent Cup last night in New Brunswick. The Slammers dumped the Pictou County Weeks Crushers 6-1 to take the best-of-seven final 4-1. **METRO HALIFAX**

Sports



EDITOR: DON.MCHOUILL@METRONEWS.CA

'Air Canada' hopes to shine

Rainmen forward Crookshank is hungry for a championship

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

From the day Eric Crookshank touched down in Halifax, he's been talking about winning a championship.

After 2 1/2 years and 62 games in a Halifax Rainmen jersey — a stretch in which the high-flying Californian has played a vital role in establishing the franchise as one of the hottest tickets in town — he's finally getting his opportunity.

"I'm hungry," Crookshank said.

"The first year, there was really no structure for the playoffs. Last year, we were knockin' on the door and couldn't get in. This year, we got in at the last minute. I'm blown away."

With the six-foot-seven Crookshank playing the best basketball of his career, the fourth-seeded Rainmen host the first-place Lawton-Fort Sill Cavalry tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Metro Centre in Game 1 of the Premier Basketball League best-of-three semifinal. It's the first playoff game in Rainmen history.

The Rainmen missed the PBL playoffs last year and quit the American Basketball Association in 2007-08 before the post-season began.

The Cavalry are a formidable foe, but the Rainmen are one of just two teams



Eric Crookshank averaged 14.4 points, 13.0 rebounds and 1.6 blocks for the Rainmen in 19 games this season.

that have managed to beat the former Continental Basketball Association powerhouse.

Both the PBL semifinal and final are best-of-three series.

"All we have to do is win four out of six games to win a championship," Crookshank said.

The 31-year-old has been unofficially anointed the Rainmen's team MVP by owner Andre Levingston after averaging 14.4 points,

13.0 rebounds and 1.6 blocks in 19 games this season. It's no secret Crookshank — self-dubbed Air Canada — relishes the spotlight.

It will be certainly centred on him more than ever before when the opening tip-off goes up tomorrow.

"Every possession counts in the playoffs," Crookshank said.

"This is what I like: the bright lights. When the lights are bright, I perform."

Gallimore could be out for Game 1

INJURY The Halifax Rainmen are expecting to be a man short when the Premier Basketball League playoffs open tomorrow.

Reserve guard Garry Gallimore, one of the team's key defensive stoppers who averaged 6.0 points and 2.0 rebounds per game off the bench, will likely be sidelined with a twisted ankle.

"It's not looking good for him, barring two really good days of treatment," said Rainmen head coach Les Berry.

Berry said backup point guard Eric Gilchreis is likely to dress despite a bothersome hamstring injury. But he'll be used sparingly in relief of red-hot starter Gary Ervin.

Injured all-star guard Tony Bennett (Achilles) and reserve small forward Jevohn Shepherd (ankle) have been limited in practice for the past week but are expected to play tomorrow.

The Rainmen would have 10 players available to dress with Gallimore out of the lineup.



Garry Gallimore

Canada upset by Swiss at U-18 tournament

HOCKEY Guy Carbonneau is hoping to turn a disappointing loss to Switzerland into a motivational tool for his Canadian team at the IIHF world under-18 championship in Belarus.

The Canadians were upset 3-1 by the Swiss yesterday in their first preliminary round game of the annual hockey tournament.

"It's a bump in the road and hopefully we can find a way to get back," said Carbonneau, the Canadian head coach.

"Sometimes that's what you need — a good ass-kicking to get you going."

Halifax Mooseheads forward Gabriel Desjardins, a rotating alternate captain

for Canada, was held off the scoresheet and had one shot in the loss.

"Today we tried to play on our skills instead of just a lot of hard work and we got caught," Guy Carbonneau said.

In the other early game yesterday, Finland hammered Latvia 7-2. At night, Sweden knocked off the U.S. 4-2 and Russia beat the Czech Republic 4-1.

Gregor Hoffman and Samuel Guerra scored in the first period to give the

Swiss a 2-0 lead.

"We knew they were going to work for 60 minutes," said Carbonneau.

"That's the kind of team that they have."

Quinton Howden of Oakbank, Man., cut the lead to 2-1 midway through the second but Joel Vermin secured the victory with an empty-net goal with five seconds to go in the third.

"It took us a period to really find our legs," Carbonneau said. "We played a little bit better at the end but I don't think it was the effort that we wanted to have in the first game."

Winnipeg's Calvin Pickard made 31 saves for Canada. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Abeltshauser excelling

Konrad Abeltshauser is putting together a strong tournament at the second-level IIHF world under-18 championship in Poland. The Halifax Mooseheads rookie is the highest scoring defenceman at the event with a goal and three assists, as well as a plus-7 rating, in two games.

METRO HALIFAX

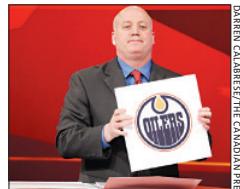
Winning the lottery: Oilers nab first overall pick in draft

NHL The Edmonton Oilers have gone from worst to first.

Two days after finishing the regular season with the league's worst record, the Oilers won yesterday's annual draft lottery to secure the top pick in the June draft. It marks the fourth time in five years that the league's worst team has ended up with the top pick.

The Boston Bruins will draft second. Boston secured Toronto's first-round pick in an off-season trade that sent forward Phil Kessel to the Maple Leafs.

The rest of the draft order also remained the same. The Florida Panthers will select third, followed by the



NHL's Bill Daly announces the top pick in the 2010 NHL Entry Draft to the Edmonton Oilers.

Columbus Blue Jackets and the New York Islanders.

Tampa Bay, Carolina, Atlanta, Minnesota and the New York Rangers round out the top 10, followed by Dallas, Anaheim, Phoenix and St. Louis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Duchesne could be backup for Flyers

NHL The Philadelphia Flyers could turn to Halifax Mooseheads alumnus Jeremy Duchesne as their backup during the first round of the NHL playoffs.

The Flyers made Duchesne one of seven minor-league call-ups yesterday and there is a good chance the 23-year-old goaltender will serve as backup to Brian Boucher when the Flyers visit the New Jersey Devils for Game 1 of the best-of-seven series tonight.

Johan Backlund, who is ahead of Duchesne on the Flyers' goaltending depth chart, has a sore groin. Veteran Sebastien Caron, who signed near the end of the regular season, is not eligible for playoff action.

Duchesne made his NHL debut two weeks ago, appearing in 16 minutes of third-period mop-up duty for Boucher.

He spent most of the season in the ECHL with the Kalamazoo Wings, posting a 3.20 goals-against average and a .904 save percentage in 24 starts.

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Centre Tim Connolly feels ready to play, and he's not the only injured Buffalo Sabres top-line forward getting healthy for the start of the playoffs. Barring any setback, there's a chance the Sabres will have forward Jochen Hecht in the lineup tomorrow when they open their first-round series hosting the Boston Bruins. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Playoff Preview

EDITOR: DON.MCHOUILL@METRONEWS.CA

Western series

- San Jose (1st) versus Colorado (8th)
- Beating the Sharks will be a tall task for Colorado, which seemed to fade late in the season, and San Jose usually gets through one round before disaster hits.

- Chicago (2nd) versus Nashville (7th)

This could be the gifted young Blackhawks' year, but it starts against a tough opponent with a hot goalie in Pekka Rinne. Chicago looks to have everything except proven goaltending, which makes it an intriguing matchup, although Antti Niemi got the job done adequately down the stretch.

- Vancouver (3rd) versus Los Angeles (6th)

Henrik Sedin was the story for the Canucks this year, taking the Art Ross Trophy with a team record 112 points even though his linemate and twin brother Daniel missed part

of the season with an injury. Now he'll have to lead the attack again against an L.A. club that is in the playoffs for the first time since 2002.

- Phoenix (4th) versus Detroit (5th)

The Coyotes are up against a formidable opponent in Detroit, which coasted through most of the season and caught fire at the end.

Star defenceman Niklas Lidstrom has looked his old self of late, as have veteran scorers Henrik Zetterberg and Pavel Datsyuk. And Jimmy Howard has provided solid goaltending for a team that has probably far too much depth and playoff experience for the surprising Coyotes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Pekka
Rinne



DAVE SANDFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Torrey Mitchell of the San Jose Sharks is chased down by Detroit Red Wings Tomas Holmstrom and Kris Draper. The Sharks have been one of the NHL's best regular-season teams over the past five years but have not made it past the second round of the playoffs.

Sharks seek redemption

San Jose looks to shed label of playoff underachievers

From the moment they arrived in training camp to the final day of the regular season when they wrapped up the top seed in the Western Conference, one question has been hanging over the San Jose Sharks.

Will this be the year the Sharks can finally shed their label of playoff underachievers and taste some post-season success?

It's a question the Sharks have long grown tired of but one they know will keep coming until all the talent they have translates into a long post-season run.

"It's a new year. That's all I have to say," defenceman Dan Boyle said. "It's a new year, new players, new team. It's a new year, man. That's it. You have to turn the page at some point. We have to win some games so these questions can stop."

The Sharks get their chance to do that starting tonight, when they host the eighth-seeded Colorado

109

San Jose has averaged about 109 points per season the past five years — second best in the NHL — but hasn't made it past the second round in that span.

Avalanche in the opener of their first-round series.

Hanging over them all series will be last year's first-round flop against Anaheim, when the Sharks lost in six games despite having the best record in the NHL in the regular season.

"We're a different team," coach Todd McLellan said. "We keep talking about last year. We keep going back to last year. I've been asked that question a hundred times. This is a different team. Half the faces in there weren't involved in the playoffs last year with our club. The organization failed last year, the group

San Jose's loss in six games to Anaheim last year marked just the third time since the current playoff format was adopted before the 1993-94 season that the team that won the Presidents' Trophy failed to get out of the first round.

of players who were here last year didn't succeed. This is a different group. We're moving forward. We're not talking about last year."

McLellan's message was echoed throughout the locker-room by his players, who stressed that all the changes the team made in the off-season should provide a clean slate heading into this post-season.

The splashiest move was the trade for high-scoring forward Dany Heatley, who delivered with 39 goals and helped form one of the league's most dangerous lines with Joe Thornton

and Patrick Marleau.

But the additions of Scott Nichol, Manny Malhotra and Jed Ortmeyer helped improve the team's grittiness and faceoff success. There was also a change of leadership with defenceman Rob Blake taking over the captain duties from Marleau.

Marleau responded to the demotion with a career-high 44 goals, while Blake will bring a new leadership voice in the locker-room during this post-season run.

"The franchise itself hasn't done what it needed to do in the playoffs the past couple years," said Blake, who won the Stanley Cup with Colorado in 2001.

"This team, we don't know. We wanted to get in this position, we wanted to be in the playoffs and set that record straight. This is a new team, a new adventure for us coming into the playoffs this year."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elliott's lack of playoff experience doesn't worry Sens

GOALIE Matt Cullen was with Carolina when a then-inexperienced Cam Ward led the Hurricanes to the Stanley Cup, and sees no reason for the Senators to be concerned with going green in goal this spring.

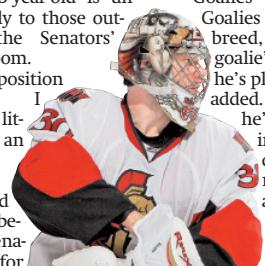
Ottawa is relying on netminder Brian Elliott to backstop its chances for success when the Senators face the defending Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins in the opening round of the playoffs.

Game 1 of the best-of-seven Eastern Conference quarter-final goes tonight at

Pittsburgh.

Cullen, who won a Stanley Cup with the Hurricanes in 2006, was dealt to Ottawa two months ago.

"Goalies are goalies. Goalies are a different breed, right? If a goalie's playing well, he's playing well," he added. "Knowing Ells, he's a hard-working guy, really dedicated, I'm not worried about him."



Brian Elliott

Cullen was a key contributor in the Hurricanes' championship run four years ago, recording 18 points in 25 post-season games. But it was Ward who emerged from a backup role that season to eventually win the Conn Smythe Award as playoff MVP.

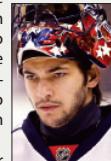
Similarly, Elliott unseated Pascal Leclaire for the No. 1 job in Ottawa this season. He now faces a tough task against 51-goal scorer Sidney Crosby, Evgeni Malkin and the rest of the Penguins' potent offence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Eastern series

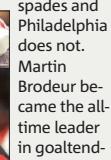
- Washington (1st) versus Montreal (8th)

The Capitals bring the most intimidating attack in hockey, but there are question marks. Do they have the goaltending to go far in Jose Theodore or Semyon Varlamov (or Theodore Michal Neuvirth)? And can they play the defensively tight team game that usually produces Cup winners?



- New Jersey (2nd) versus Philadelphia (7th)

Goaltending will be front and centre in this series because New Jersey has it in



spades and Philadelphia does not. Martin Brodeur became the all-time leader in goaltending wins and shutouts this season and remains a force at 37, although it is hard to forget his Game 7 meltdown in the opening round last year against Carolina.

- Buffalo (3rd) versus Boston (6th)

The terrific play of young goalie Tuukka Rask lets Boston comes at least close to matching Buffalo's



biggest strength, star goalie Ryan Miller. The Sabres look to have rediscovered the fast-paced two-way game that made them a league power early in the decade.

- Pittsburgh (4th) versus Ottawa (5th)

The teams split their season series 2-2, each winning home and away once each. All the games were decided by three or more goals. Evgeni Malkin had five goals in four games against the Sens, while Sidney Crosby was held to three assists. This series could be decided in goal, where Marc-Andre Fleury gives Pittsburgh the edge over Brian Elliott.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

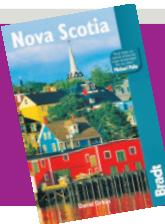
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Travel



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METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYRCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Coconut coast finally catching up

Punta Cana undergoing major modernization, while working to maintain its natural beauty

CÉLIA PEDROSO
Metro World News

The magnificent stretch of coast in Punta Cana is simply the dream beach come true: white soft sands, warm turquoise waters, coconut palm trees, one perfect beach after another for 50 kms.

No wonder it's a favourite of A-list celebrities like Beyoncé, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Michael Douglas and Julio Iglesias.

Its obvious natural beauty makes it all the more strange that tourism took so long to take off here.

But they are catching up with the rest of the Caribbean fast.

With new hotels and resorts opening up justice is finally being made to this precious piece of land, also known as the coconut coast for pretty obvious reasons.

But fear not — although resorts and hotels are here there is still space in abundance and your can always find your own beach solace.

As the captain of our snorkeling boat explained a coral reef means the waters are safe and calm.

But



Boating tours are available for low prices throughout most of Punta Cana.



Make sure to leave the resort life and explore Punta Cana.

amazing snorkeling is only one the many activities hotels provide — scuba-diving, sailing, tennis, horse-riding, cycling, golf, even Segway tours are all on offer.

Away from the hotels explore the Punta Cana Resort & Club and follow the trail that takes you in-

to the fresh water lagoon (don't be afraid and take a swim) and visit the Ecological Reserve — an impressive tropical sanctuary of wildlife and plants.

And take a break from sunbathing by renting a car and visiting the neighboring Dominican villages. The locals are super friendly and you may end up having a merengue lesson.

Higuey and the colourful El Cortecito are a short dis-

Inside and out



- Spanish is the official language in this side of the Hispaniola island (Haiti is in the other half) where Dominican Republic is, but English is spoken in the hotels and touristic areas.
- With warm tropical weather all year long, the country has a lot of sunshine hours. Don't forget a high grade sunblock and sunglasses!
- The beautiful Chavon River has been the set for such movies as *Apocalypse Now* and *Jurassic Park*. If you want to check it out there are day trips.

tance from Punta Cana but the roads are not very good so take your time to drive.

There you'll really see the laid back Caribbean way of life and also get the chance to buy top quality cigars (Dominican Republic is the largest producer of cigars in the world), excellent coffee, art or rum. Take the local's advice on what to buy.

Hali and friends from Condor want to send two lucky winners to Frankfurt, Germany this summer. Log in to www.FlyHalifax.com and click on the **Wunderbar!** contest button to enter for your chance to win a trip for two to Frankfurt.



Courtesy of Condor Airlines



Contest closes April 30, 2010. Some restrictions apply. Visit www.FlyHalifax.com for complete contest rules.

Schwimmer's Chicago

Chicagophile and former Friends star offers his Windy City tips

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

"There's so much that's special to me about this city, but most of all, its people. The friendliness, the welcome for everyone. Just grab some local food, listen to some local music, and suddenly ... you're a local," says David Schwimmer, the former Friends star.

"I have a home here, I do theater here, and I got my start in show biz here."

He is now such a Chicagophile that one of the city's premier attractions, the John Hancock Observatory named him its celebrity guide. Here's what he thought of some of the city's attractions:

LAKE MICHIGAN

Even though it's only the second largest of the Great Lakes, it's still bigger than the states of Vermont and New Hampshire put together. Unlike other big American cities, Chicago never put factories on its waterfront.

THE WINDY CITY

It has nothing to do with the wind. Chicago got that nickname during the time of the huge world's fair. East Coast journalists wrote that those Chicagoans came from "the windy city" because they talked so much.

MILLENNIUM PARK

It's full of amazing outdoor sculptures. One of them has only been here since 2004, but it's already become the symbol of Chicago. The title is



Chicago has never put factories on its waterfront making for a clean, fresh swim.

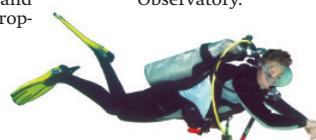
Cloud Gate but everybody calls it the silver bean. It's only steps away from the main art museum, the Art Institute of Chicago. Huge. Wonderful collections.

CHICAGO DEEP DISH

This is the original kind. Invented by restauranteur Ike Sewell in 1943. He wanted to make pizza something that you'd eat with a knife and fork ... at a proper table.

LAKE SHORE DRIVE

Driving along gives dazzling views of the water, and build-



Resort vacations

IF YOU GO
Hear David Schwimmer's Chicago tips at the John Hancock Observatory.

WHERE TO STAY

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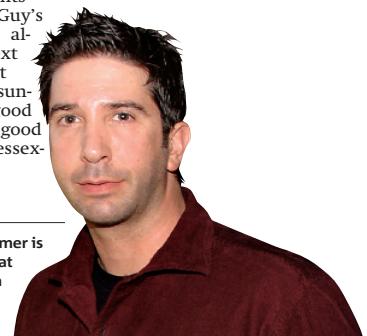


The Windy City didn't get its name from where you think.



Cruises

unmissable. Handy for all the city sights (and Buddy Guy's Legends is almost next door). Great pool with sun-deck; good rooms and good value. (essex-inn.com)



David Schwimmer is a guest guide at Chicago's John Hancock Observatory.

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No yellow brick road needed

Chinese tourist destination offers a refuge for little people

RICHARD MORIARTY
Metro World News



The long and the short of it is simple — this is the world's only Dwarf Empire and if you're over 1.5 meters you're not coming in.

But this land of little people in Kunming, in the Chinese province of Yunnan, where little people live in a sanctuary entirely separate from the average sized world has become an unlikely tourist attraction.

Everyone at the settlement have their accommodation, healthcare and food taken care of in return for performing musicals and shows for normalized visitors.

Their community set on the Xishan mountain, in which they will allow you into their mushroom-roofed houses to make you cups of coffee and smoke shisha, is a trek up a windy, vertiginous road, but at the top the little people provide a giant welcome.

You can take in one of



METRO WORLD NEWS

Kunming is home to the only little person community on Earth.

the spellbinding musicals in their ramshackle amphitheatre, where performances include ballet, Shaolin martial arts, breakdancing, traditional folk Chinese songs and a version of U.S. pop act the Pussycat Dolls.

The performances aren't always note perfect, but the tiny showmen are hard

to take your eyes off.

On arrival you will be greeted by around 100 people in fancy dress — belly dancers, Roman centurions, folk dancers, and dwarf men in top hats rush out to meet you through the mountain fog.

The community was set up by average sized businessman Cheng Mingjing, to

Getting there

- Entry to the park costs \$10.
- Bus rides to the dwarf empire (hosted on the same site as the butterfly park) can be caught from the town centre.

a former electronics salesman who spent millions on building a butterfly park as well as the settlement.

The settlement is a haven for dwarves who have been abused in the wider world.

It even has its own parliament who settle domestic disputes and promote the regular activities outside the park, and their own national anthem which is sung before each performance.

No little person — regardless of musical talent — is turned away from the park, if they do not perform, they are given maintenance catering, public relations or security roles.



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Strike at uMontréal ends

Université de Montréal lecturers voted Sunday to accept a contract offer and end a labour dispute that began in mid-February. uMontréal says students enrolled in classes taught by lecturers may see their winter term extended. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Best place to work?

Environics Communications has earned the No. 1 ranking on the list of Canada's 75 Best Workplaces. Generated by the Great Place to Work Institute using a unique employee survey approach. For more information check out environicspr.com and greatplacetowork.ca.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

How (and how not) to speak

Finer points of public speaking are important in all walks of life, says expert

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

In socio-political terms, the first quarter of 2010 has proven crucial in learning what not to do.

Amusingly, most of those lessons have come from figures we've been urged to shape our lives after. Many felt unconvinced during golf pro Tiger Woods' public apology for scandalous behaviour. He appeared awkwardly indifferent while reading what was meant to be sincere atonement.

Similarly, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin disgraced himself during the recent Olympics ordeal when American figure skater Evan Lysacek was forced to defend his gold medal win against an insulting, emotionally charged and impulsive attack.

Odd that individuals graced with the finer aspects of keeping up appearances should tarnish themselves so heavily. Yet as Peter Handal, CEO of performance-based workforce development organization Dale Carnegie Training reveals, even the most cultivated of us can slip, especially when speaking in public.

"It's very common for individuals not used to speaking in front of an au-



When it comes to public speaking, the best thing to do is own the topic, know your subject, and talk to — not at — your audience.

"If the audience feels they are trying to be convinced of something, they will be less receptive to what you have to say." Peter Handal

dience to read and rely upon notes to quell nerves and eliminate awkward silences but it is essential for this to be kept at a minimum if the speaker wants to be perceived as sincere," he notes. "(Woods') speech itself was well-written and included all the hallmarks of a heartfelt, appropriate apology but its delivery before a contrived audience

left something to be desired."

In that respect, Handal looks to Lysacek as the epitome of proper public speaking. He got his point across by not relying too heavily upon printed materials, being himself, including the audience in the conversation while keeping it brief, utilizing strong eye contact and injecting his speech with enthusiasm. He also stresses that the overall modus should be to own the topic; know the subject of the presentation well enough

to feel comfortable discussing it.

Thankfully, such funda-

mentals apply to all aspects of public speaking be it in the classroom, lunchroom or boardroom and with any audience from one to one thousand. Furthermore, despite age, gender or background, intent remains constant: To speak with people as opposed to at them via sincerity, pacing, enthusiasm and securing their desire to feel important.

"If the audience feels they are trying to be convinced of something, they will immediately go on the defensive and be less receptive to what you have to say," Handal closes. "Talk in terms of (their) interests and use their names often. One Dale Carnegie Training principle states, 'to them, a person's name is the sweetest and most important sound in any language.' Using it often will keep them engaged."

Workology in brief

OTTAWA PRESIDENT RESPONDS TO NEWSPAPER'S COVERAGE

Tasked with looking for ways to reduce spending and increase revenue at the University of Ottawa, a steering committee comprising financial experts and university board of governor members observes that uOttawa "faces significant deficits, its much-vaunted new focus on research is not financially sustainable and its students are seriously dissatisfied with what the university offers," reported the Ottawa Citizen Sunday. In response what he calls an "erroneous portrait" in the Citizen story, uOttawa president Allan Rock writes that the institution remains "in a very strong financial position as a result of a history of fiscal prudence."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Chain of Lakes Trail Association & HRM Staff invite you to Community Open House & Information Session

Thursday, April 15, 2010 • 2-4pm & 6-9pm
St. James Church Hall, 2668 Joseph Howe Drive

A 15 minute presentation about the Chain of Lakes Trail will take place during these sessions at 2:30 pm and again at 6:30 pm.

The SNC Lavalin Presentation on the Chester Spur Functional Plan will take place from 7-8 pm.

The Chain of Lakes Trail Association (COLTA) will be accepting memberships at the open house. For a \$10 fee you can join the association and become part of this exciting project.

For additional information please visit the website at www.halifax.ca/trails or contact Regional Trails Coordinator Paul Euloth:

• eulothp@halifax.ca
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If this position interests you, please send your resume and cover letter by **April 23, 2010**. As part of our commitment to the environment, we strongly prefer that you e-mail your application to jobs@tclns.com or apply online.



Respect for mechanics

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz



metronews.ca/autopilot

When you take your car to a mechanic does it usually end in tears?

What is it about the nature of getting cars fixed that seems to generate acrimony?

There is one obvious reason: How would you rather spend \$2,300? On a leaking and overheated transmission, or on a family trip to Disney? Okay, some of you might opt for the transmission, but you get my point.

Other reasons for dysfunctional customer-mechanic relationships usually centre on mistrust and competency.

You, or your uncle, once got charged \$437 for a replacement foogleboomer, and it never fixed anything,

because that car never ever had a foogleboomer.

But today we're going examine a less-discussed irritant in the relationship — the customer.

I once worked for a spell behind the service counter at a busy GM dealership. My colleagues and I dealt with a lot of upset customers, because, well, this was the early 1980s, when GM was transitioning from big cars to smaller, front-drive cars, and this didn't always go well.

Some customers commiserated with our mutual plight, and were patient and polite.

Others were scary. The language! Our young cashier found it particularly hard to take; at least once a week she would have to retire to the bathroom for a good cry.

Here is a partial list of other questionable customer behaviour we experienced:

- Demanding warranty coverage, even though the vehicle was years out of warranty and used regularly to tow circus animals;
- Accusing us of a "make

work" project if we even suggested something like replacing a 21-year-old drive belt;

• Letting their unsupervised children make forts out of empty oil barrels. Leaving us to empty the trunk of dead cats (or what looked like dead cats) before we could get in there to change a turn signal bulb.

I've sat in on lots of training seminars for mechanics and service advisors, and many had lots to say about difficult customers ... How to manage their sky-high expectations ... How to prevent them from damaging the morale of hard working, talented, and honest workers ... How to get them interacting more effectively with service staff.

On the latter point, one trainer advised to tell customers to show up for service appointments with a vehicle that was "ready for service," which basically meant: clean inside and out; nothing in the trunk and cargo area; gas in the tank.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Das Auto.



Russell Crowe has been given a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. The Oscar-winning actor — who has previously refused offers to have the prestigious honour — was accompanied by wife Danielle Spencer and their two sons. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Crowe gets recognized

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Bret to the ER



Apprentice star Bret Michaels, the 47-year-old former Poison frontman, had to be rushed to the hospital early Monday morning for an emergency appendectomy. POPEATER.COM

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

When Tracy Morgan signed up for Twitter last October, the online world went wild. But after about a month of regular updates in his signature scatterbrained style, the 30 Rock star went quiet. There's a reason for that, he tells Metro.

"I've always been a private person. I'm from the hood. You got to understand, I'm from a different generation. I don't even know how to use a computer, man," he says. "But if I started using Twitter, it'd be x-rated. I'm going up for the upstroke now, coming down on the downstroke."

Aside from worries about adult-oriented content, Morgan also stays off the micro-blogging site because he doesn't want to waste good material.

"If they're getting everything right there on Twitter, they're not going to



Tracy Morgan and Chris Rock star in Death at a Funeral which opens this Friday.

Death at a Funeral opens Friday

come see me do stand-up," he says. "I like to store information and put it on stage."

Morgan says he still does stand-up every weekend, even with the production schedule for his award-winning sitcom 30 Rock and promotional duties for film's like Cop Out and this week's Death at a

Funeral. He's gearing up for a two-to-three month stand-up tour before 30 Rock begins filming its fifth season, and he insists his increased success hasn't slowed him down any. "I'm still out there getting girls pregnant," he says.

But first he has to promote Death at a Funeral, his new ensemble comedy that puts him alongside Chris Rock and Martin Lawrence, something Morgan doesn't take for granted.

"Chris Rock and Martin Lawrence are my heroes. Those guys put me to work when I first started as a kid," he says. "They allowed me to stand on their shoulders."

And he's doing his best to keep things lively during the exhausting publicity tour for the film.

"Yesterday during the press junket, I pulled out my jockstrap," he says matter-of-factly. "Because I wear jock straps. I don't wear boxers," he explains.

Ugly Betty bids TV screens adios

During its four-year run, ABC's Ugly Betty skewered the New York fashion world, nabbing celebrity cameos from the likes of Lindsay Lohan, Shakira and Isaac Mizrahi.

It turned America Ferrera, who played the plucky but style-challenged Betty Suarez, into a household name. And it landed a prestigious Peabody Award.

As the credits roll on the wacky dramedy's last episode April 14, Latino, gay rights groups and fans are lamenting more than the loss of Betty's cringe-inducing outfits and the melodrama of the Meade family — owners of the show's fictional fashion magazine Mode. The hour-long show was also among the rare network programs to tackle such controversial issues as gay teens, body image and illegal immigration.

The show contrasted Betty's career at Mode with her working class, Mexican immigrant family, including her widower father Ignacio, her impulsive older sister Hilda and her theatre-loving, fashion expert nephew Justin, who came out as gay in this last season.

"Having this family at the centre of the show made it normal to watch a Latino family in a non-stereotypical way," Ferrera said in an email to The Associated Press.

Lisa Navarrete, a vice-president for the National Council of La Raza, said the show's absence will leave a void.

"You don't have a lot of Latino-themed shows on TV, so when we lose 'Ugly Betty,' we will have a major loss," she said.

The brainchild of producer Silvio Horta and actress and producer Salma Hayek, Ugly Betty was based on Colombian telenovela that became so popular it was copied in Mexico, Germany and elsewhere.

The English version also proved a global hit. More than 10,000 Facebook fans

Ferrera stays busy

- Ugly Betty will soon be over for its star, America Ferrera but she's got a new project in the works from behind the scenes. Ferrera will serve as executive producer of Pedro & Maria, a multicultural, interactive telenovela in development for MTV television and various web platforms. Pedro & Maria is billed as a bilingual, modern-day version of Romeo & Juliet that will give its audience the ability to vote on the direction the characters and story lines take.

from as far as England, the Philippines and Bangladesh have begged ABC not to cancel the show since it announced this season would be its last, following a decline in the show's ratings an ever-changing schedule.

Shortly after the height of the immigration debate, the show followed Betty's father as he confessed to his American-born children that he had been living in the U.S. illegally.

Even with comedic turns, "the plot line illustrated the complexity of the lives of many undocumented immigrants who are otherwise integrated into American life," Navarrete said. "You have a lot of families like Ugly Betty where you have U.S. born children whose parents have undocumented status."

More groundbreaking was the show's handling of its gay and transgender characters, said Jarett Barrios, president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

Although initially played for laughs, Ugly Betty provided a sympathetic portrait of Meade's son Alex who transforms into the stunning Alexis. And it followed the bumpy love life of Mode's gay fashion assistant Marc St. James.

The series finale of Ugly Betty airs tonight

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

entertainment 21

A drug tale for Douglas heir

It was the summer of 2009 and Cameron Douglas was strung out on heroin — again.

Holed up in a trendy Manhattan hotel, the wayward heir to Hollywood royalty — son of Michael, grandson of Kirk — was shooting up sometimes six times a day.

His own stabs at stardom had mostly gone nowhere. But notoriety found him when federal agents showed up at his hotel door to cast him in an unwanted role: methamphetamine trafficker.

The 31-year-old's real-life drug drama in a Manhattan court has since laid bare the details of his downward spiral — which friends blame on a toxic mix of privilege, neglect and a family legacy of substance abuse — and his loved ones' deep despair over it.

"I must admit that my immediate reaction when I learned of my son's crime was one of guilt," his mother Diandra wrote in one of several letters from supporters asking a federal judge for leniency at a sentencing scheduled for today.



Even while using drugs, Cameron Douglas had a successful spin as a DJ in New York City.

"I hate to say it, but he needs to be rebuilt."

Robert B. Millman a psychiatrist who has treated Cameron Douglas

The Drug Enforcement Administration declines to discuss the investigation. But court proceedings, including Douglas' guilty plea, and documents indicate he has given information in hopes of being spared a minimum sentence of 10 years in prison.

Douglas grew up "in the shadow of mythic fore-

bears," wrote Nancy Hersch Ingram, Diandra's godmother. "He was a very sweet and shy boy ... That he somehow needed to be 'somebody' was evident, but who should he be?"

Douglas' lawyers have argued that he deserves three and a half years in prison at most, and he, too, is looking forward to redeeming himself and leading a sober life once he's out.

But a psychiatrist who has treated Douglas, Robert B. Millman, testified that his road to recovery will be rocky.

"I hate to say it, but he needs to be rebuilt," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Old Christine	Accidentally	Criminal Minds (N)	CSI: NY	
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	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Quest-Card	19th Hole (HDTV) (Live)	Caddyshack *** (1980, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Bill Murray.	Larry King Live (N)	John Daly			
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	55	55	55	SCOR	HSR	Covers Experts	Score Today	Court Cuts	NBA Basketball	New York Knicks at Toronto Raptors. (Live)			
	45	45	45	SPD	Barrett-Jackson 2006	NASCAR	NASCAR Hub	Racing Chef	NASCAR	Dangerous Drives (HDTV)	Pass Time		
family	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey Playoffs: Teams TBA. (Live)						
	43	43	43	FAM	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	44	44	44	TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Johnny Test	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	
	26	26	26	TREE	Guess-Jess	3rd & Bird (N)	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Toopy & Binoo	Franklin	Dino	Little Bear
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	To Be Indie	iCarly	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid. Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	The First 48 "Blindsight"	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN National News (N)	Investigates	Passage John Rae.		Down2Earth	Mighty River	Canadian Geographic		
	50	50	50	BET	106 & BET's Top 10 Live		Who's Your Daddy?* (2007, Comedy) Jeffrey Jones						
	37	37	37	BRVO	Emily of New Moon	From the Spirit	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan Files	Windfield	Star Portraits	White Collar	
	25	25	25	CMT	The Show (N)	Totally	Amer. Funniest Home Videos	Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	
cable variety	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs	Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie	
	153	153	153	COURT	Situation Critical	Killer Next Door		Crime Files	Dumb Criminal	Killer Forensics	Killer, Door		
	38	38	38	DISC	Canada's Worst Driver	Daily Planet (N)	Egypt Unwrapped (N)	How & Howe Tech (N)	How & Howe Tech (N)	Mayday			
	34	48	48	HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home	House Hunters	For Rent	Agent-Agent	Property Shop	Property Virgin	Unsellables	House Hunters	
	46	46	46	HIST	Dive Detectives (N)	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Nostradamus Effect	Ice Road Truckers (HDTV) (N)	Ice Pilots NWT			
cable variety	17	17	17	MM	Buffy the Vampire Slayer	America's Best Dance Crew	disBAND	Video on Trial	VideoFlow				
	19	19	19	MM	mmtop10.ca	The Daily Fix	Ranked!		mmtop10.ca			G. Simmons	
	20	20	20	MI	The Maid Heist	(8:15) Harriet the Spy ** (1996, Comedy-Drama)			Orphan *** (2009, Horror) Vera Farmiga.				
	48	23	23	OLN	Mantracker	Ghost Hunters Academy	Destination Truth	Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters			
	51	51	51	PEACH	Friends	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Nacho Libre *** (2006, Comedy) Jack Black.	Seinfeld			
cable variety	206	206	206	PIX	Revenge of the Creature	24 Heures en 60 minutes	Grands reportages (SC)	In Laws	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI économie			
	67	67	67	RDI	rdi monde	RDI économie	Relic Hunter	In Laws	End/Leash	Secret Diary			
	39	39	39	SHOW	Tilt-Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	Rich Bride Poor Bride	In Laws	End/Leash	Star Paxton.			
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)	Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Chuck (HDTV)	Supernatural			
	14	14	14	SPIKE	The Unit (HDTV)	The Unit (HDTV)	UFC Unleashed (HDTV)	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed	Ultimate Fight			
cable variety	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	TMZ (N)	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)	The View (HDTV) (N)	Dr. Oz Show		
	21	21	21	TLC	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Addicted Heroin addict.	650-lb. Virgin (HDTV)	Hoarding: Buried Alive	Hoarding: Buried Alive	Addicted		
	56	34	34	TROP	Project Runway Canada	Dog Whisperer	Hoarders	Hoarders	Parking Wars				
	20	20	20	TV5	Que-champion	Journal de Fr2	Verdict	Mariées mais pas trop ** (2003)	Animal sing	J'y suis, j'y			
	28	28	28	V	Emily of New Moon	Murder, She Wrote	No Place Like	Open All Hours	John & Yoko: Give Peace	Unscripted (N)			
cable variety	60	97	97	VIVA	Mediums	Encounters	Cold Case "The Dealer"	Missing Two ransom notes.	Medium	Cold Case			
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Cupcake Girls	Cupcake Girls	Love & Murder	
	251	251	251	WGN	WGN Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)	Fly Girls	High Society	WGN News		

22 entertainment



While Pamela Anderson tangos on Dancing with the Stars, California officials say she has failed to pay \$493,000 US in personal income tax. Anderson is on the annual list of delinquent taxpayers, popeater.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

The single mom blues

SUCK IT UP, WOMAN! IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE WORKING THE CHECKOUT LINE AND LIVING OFF FOOD COUPONS

Responding to her ex-husband's accusations that she's an absentee parent, Kate Gosselin says she has no choice but to work, which takes her away from her eight kids — but that she tries to make every moment with them count that much more, people.com reports.

"I've got to work harder now than ever because I am a single mom," the former Jon & Kate Plus 8 star, 35, said Tuesday on NBC's Today show.

"In my heart I'm always in my kitchen, baking and cooking for my kids, and I'll always be there. It's a struggle to be here (in New York), to be anywhere. The emotion that you see is because I would rather be at home with them."

But that's not always possible, she says.

"I have to work. I have to provide for them. And it's a struggle that every working mom, especially single moms, go through, and I'm really feeling it now, and it's really hard."

The best she can do, Gosselin says, is carve out as much time with them as possible. She says she leaves Los Angeles, where Dancing with the Stars is filmed, every week to spend time in Pennsylvania.

"If I had 24 hours a day seven days a week with

eight kids, it wouldn't be enough time in my book," she says.

"So, to minus out the working days is really hard. But I make the most of every minute I have with them ... when I'm home, we make those little spots of time really big in our memories."

Jon and Kate Gosselin are due in court in Pennsylvania on May 25 for a hearing on his motion for full custody of their eight children, the Associated Press reports.

Jon Gosselin's new lawyer also says his client does not earn enough to warrant the current \$21,700 monthly child support award.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



All the things money can buy

TOO BAD CLASS ISN'T ONE OF THEM Steven Seagal's assistant is suing the former action star for sexual harassment, illegal trafficking of females for sex, failure to prevent sexual harassment, retaliation, wrongful termination and false representation

about employment, according to court papers obtained by Radar Online.

Kayden Nguyen claims Mr. Seagal treated her as his personal sex toy while in Louisiana working on his reali-

ty series, Steven Seagal: Lawman, in which he works for a local sheriff's office.

"Mr. Seagal has been keeping two young female Russian 'attendants' on staff who were available for his sexual needs 24 hours a day, seven days a week," the suit also alleges.

METRO WORLD NEWS



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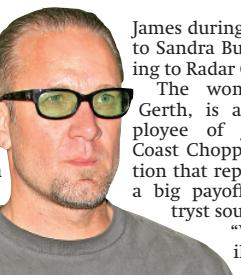
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Can we start calling him Henry VIII?

JUST NEVER GIVE THE MAN AN AXE
A fifth woman has come forward claiming a sexual relationship with Jesse



James during his marriage to Sandra Bullock, according to Radar Online.

The woman, Merilee Gerth, is a former employee of James' West Coast Choppers — a position that reportedly led to a big payoff when their tryst soured.

"When Merilee ended her

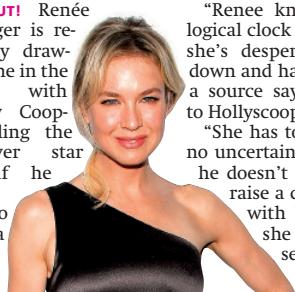
relationship with Jesse in mid-2007, he fired her, so she hired Gloria Allred and sued him claiming sexual harassment," a source says.

"Merilee had irrefutable evidence of her affair with Jesse, so they ended up settling out of court."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Baby-making ultimatum?

GET A BABY INSIDE OF ME OR GET OUT! Renée Zellweger is reportedly drawing a line in the sand with Bradley Cooper, telling the Hangover star that if he doesn't want to have a baby, they're



through.

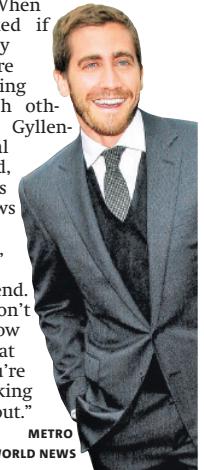
"Renée knows her biological clock is ticking and she's desperate to settle down and have a family," a source says, according to Hollyscoop.

"She has told Bradley in no uncertain terms that if he doesn't agree to raise a child with her, she sees

no future for them as a couple.

"Renée is even prepared to adopt if she isn't able to get pregnant."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Stop hurting his feelings

STICKS AND STONES WON'T BREAK HIS BONES BUT WORDS WILL. THAT'S HOW IT GOES, RIGHT?

Ryan Phillippe has had enough of people criticizing him over his divorce from Reese Witherspoon and his recent split from Abbie Cornish.

"I've been dumped on in the press for relationship stuff since Reese and I divorced," he tells Howard Stern.

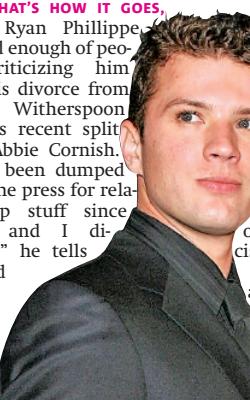
"I don't feel like I de-

serve it. Things happen! How many people have you broken up with over your life?"

And after his relationship with Cornish, Phillippe says he's making some changes: "I have a new rule: not to date anyone who has a publicist," he says.

"Who announces a breakup? I don't understand that! There's no need for that."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

EMMA ROBERTS is sorry for what she said about Target, **ELIZABETH TAYLOR** is happily single, and **CONAN O'BRIEN** has a new job.



@RobertsEmma Want to clear something up about a thought I shared in a fashion magazine about my desire to maybe design a clothing line. I did not mean for it to sound like I said Target is cheesy. I love Target and have been going there my whole life.

@DameElizabeth The rumors regarding my engagement simply aren't true. Jason is my manager and dearest friend. I love him with all my heart.

@ConanOBrien The good news: I will be doing a show on TBS starting in November! The bad news: I'll be playing Rudy on the all new Cosby Show. ER!



GETTY IMAGES

Lightening lit up her love

AVRIL WHO? It looks like Avril Lavigne and Brody Jenner are betting their rumoured romance will last, as the pair reportedly got matching lightning bolt tattoos together while in Las Vegas, according to Gatecrasher.

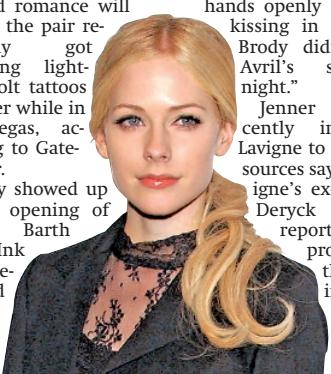
"They showed up to the opening of Mario Barth King Ink and requested the same tats," a

source says.

"They were really excited about it. They held hands openly and were kissing in a corner. Brody didn't leave Avril's side all night."

Jenner also recently introduced Lavigne to his mom, sources say, and Lavigne's ex-husband, Deryck Whibley, reportedly approves of the pairing.

METRO WORLD NEWS



A hand from Down Under

THE (LOVE) WIZARD OF OZ?

Jake Gyllenhaal has reportedly found help getting over Reese Witherspoon with Australian actress Isabel Lucas, according to the Toronto Sun.

Sources spotted the pair on a romantic date in Montreal recently.

When asked if they were seeing each other, Gyllenhaal said, "It's news to me, my friend. I don't know what you're talking about."



For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food**Take Five****ACROSS**

1 Toward the stern
 4 Cisterns
 8 Serenades the moon
 12 Cattle call?
 13 October birthstone
 14 Hollywood clasher
 15 Hostel
 16 Complete
 18 Lieu
 20 Chest protector?
 21 Nitwit
 24 Enticed
 28 Where sailors go
 32 Wild wind
 33 Blond shade
 34 Viewpoint
 36 Pen point
 37 KFC additive
 39 On "E"
 41 Commandeer
 43 Up to
 44 Surprise cries
 46 Church council
 50 "Speak up!"

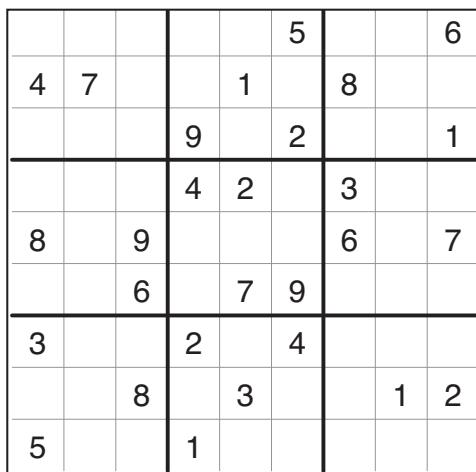
55 Lawyers' org.
 56 Small songbird
 57 Franc replacement
 58 Old hand
 59 Odds' mates
 60 Part of Miss Muffet's meal
 61 Storm center

DOWN

1 Writer Kingsley
 2 Type choice
 3 Color quality
 4 Puts a hex on
 5 "Simpsons" storekeeper
 6 Tit for —
 7 Eventual sculpture?
 8 Nocturnal nippert
 9 Past
 10 Thee
 11 Erstwhile flier
 17 Zero
 19 German composer Franz
 22 Norway's capital
 23 Lollapalooza

SudokuFor more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

E	C	I	H	O	S	I	P	E	I	O	W	L
G	U	R	U	Y	E	A	R	E	B	O	A	
O	B	S	T	I	N	A	T	E	S	K	I	
G	R	O	A	N	T	E	M	E	C	D	A	
R	U	Y	T	E	E	T	T	O	A	L		
I	N	S	S	A	M	O	R	N	A	R		
D	E	T	R	I	T	U	S	P	I	T		
G	R	I	G	S	L	I	C	I	T			
G	U	O	N	T	E	E	N					
E	E	C	O	B	S	T	A	C	L	E	S	
N	E	T	R	O	A	N	E	A	S	E		
E	S	S	A	G	R	A	R	O	P	E		

On the webFor more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca**Horoscopes by Sally Brompton** sallybrompton.comFor Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca**ARIES****MARCH 21-APRIL 20**

Make the most of the next 24 hours. With the new moon working in your favor anything you start is sure to be a success.

TAURUS**APRIL 21-MAY 21**

You like to know what makes people tick, but the important question now is what motivates you. Think about it – then make it happen.

LIBRA**SEPT 23-OCT 23**

Cosmic activity in your opposite sign means that the best way to impress other people is to be nice to them. Is that so hard?

SCORPIO**OCT 24-NOV 22**

Scorpio is an ambitious sign and you are certainly not afraid of hard work, so roll up your sleeves and get started on a plan or project.

GEMINI**MAY 22-JUNE 21**

Make an effort to listen to people today, even people who bore or annoy you. You may find that you have more in common than you think.

SAGITTARIUS**NOV 23-DEC 21**

More than anything else it is your mind that creates your reality. Positive thoughts and feelings will inevitably lead to positive results.

CANCER**JUNE 22-JULY 22**

A new moon at the midheaven angle of your chart means you want to be pushed, you want to show what you can do.

CAPRICORN**DEC 22-JAN 20**

Don't try to make excuses or shift the blame. Be honest, both with yourself and with other people. It's okay to make mistakes.

LEO**JULY 23-AUG 23**

You are in no mood to compromise and that's good because the planets say there is no reason why you should. Go your own way, do your own thing.

AQUARIUS**JAN 21-FEB 18**

Today's new moon falls in one of the most open and outgoing areas of your chart, so you'll want to go out and have a good time over the next 24 hours.

VIRGO**AUG 24-SEPT 22**

What you see today won't necessarily be what you get. In fact, you should be on your guard as tricksters of one kind or another are on the prowl.

PISCES**FEB 19-MARCH 20**

The urge to spend your way out of your troubles is likely to be overwhelming, but you must resist. Luxuries are not the answer.

This day in history

1828: Noah Webster copyrights the first edition of his dictionary.
 1865: U.S. President Abraham Lincoln is shot in Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth.
 1894: Thomas Edison demonstrates the kinetoscope, a device for peep-show viewing using photographs that flip in sequence, a precursor to movies.

1912: The British passenger liner RMS Titanic hits an iceberg in the North Atlantic at 11:40 p.m. The ship sinks the following morning with the loss of 1,517 lives.
 1956: In Chicago, Ill., videotape is first demonstrated.

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